

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Akihiro YASUDA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2852

Appln. No. : 10/575,353

Examiner: Sandra L. Braes

Filed : April 11, 2006

Confirmation No.: 9434

For : FIXING APPARATUS

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Amendment  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Official Action of August 10, 2007, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response was set to expire on November 13, 2007 (November 10, 2007 being a Saturday and November 12, 2007 being a Federal holiday), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections in view of the herein-contained amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this Response.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this Response.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this Response.